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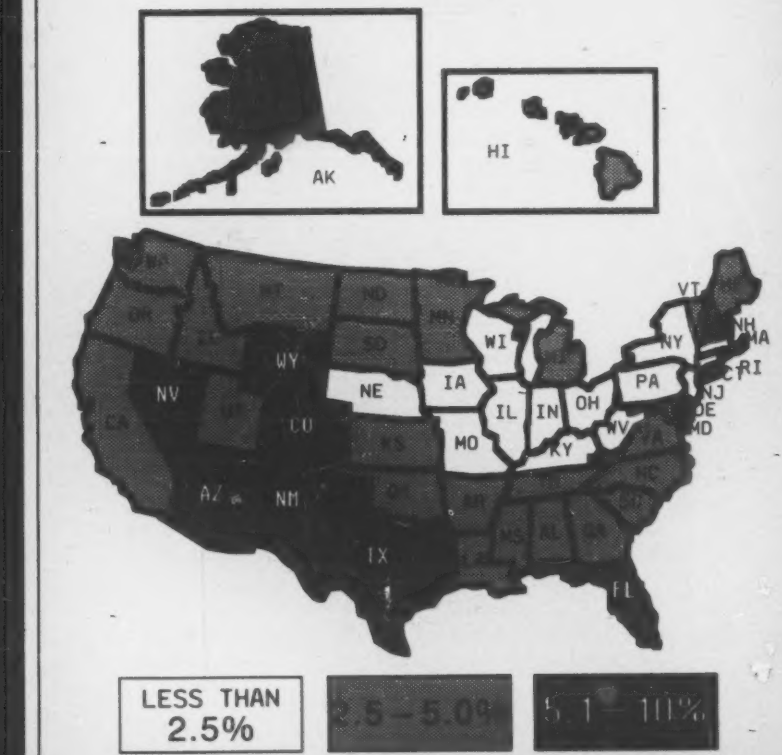
JUNE 1986
ALASKA ECONOMIC TRENDS

Alaska Department of Labor **Bill Sheffield, Governor, State of Alaska**

ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT GROWTH RATE



Alaska's Employment Rate Growth Number One

Alaska Economic Trends

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The following notes pertain to Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Tables:

Government includes teachers in primary and secondary schools, and personnel employed by the University of Alaska.

Benchmark date March 1985.

P/ Denotes preliminary estimates.
R/ Denotes revised estimates.

U.S. Employment Growth Rates: Alaska's Rate is Number One

By Neal Fried, Greg Huff and Judy Hallanger

From 1970 to 1985 employment in Alaska has grown four times more rapidly than for the United States. During this period Alaska's employment grew 10% per year compared to 2.5% nationwide. If the past five years (1980-1985) were used as a measuring stick, the gap is even wider. Employment in Alaska grew 35%, while the nation's employment increased 8%. This article will examine industry trends and compare Alaska to other states and to the nation.

Industry Trends

Though Alaska's employment growth has been far more dramatic than the nation's, many industry trends have been similar. In Alaska and nationally the secondary industries sector has registered strong growth. The secondary industries include retail trade; finance, insurance and real estate; and the service industries. This illustrates both the nation's and the state's move towards a more service oriented economy. It has been estimated that more than 90% of the nation's new jobs during the next twenty years will be in the secondary industries.

Mining and construction employment growth in Alaska was much stronger than nationally. Over the five year period 1980-1985, mining employment in Alaska grew 40% compared to a 5.6% decline nationwide (see Table 1). Alaska's mining employment growth was driven by oil during this period while the nation's mining employment decline was a result of a severely depressed hard rock industry. During the 1970-1985 period the national mining picture was more positive, growing by 56%, but was still less than Alaska's 214% (see Table 2).

Construction employment in Alaska grew ten times as fast as it grew nationally during the 1980-1985 period. Dramatic increases in population and state government capital construction dollars fueled this growth. From 1970-1985, government employment increased nationally by 20% while in Alaska it increased by 92%. During the past five years, government employment nationwide increased by less than 1% contrasted to the 24% increase in Alaska. The growth in Alaska was predominantly in the local and state sectors, an expression of Alaska's new found oil wealth and rapidly growing population. (federal government increased slightly when adjustments are made for the transfer of the Alaska Railroad from the federal government to the state.)

Table 1
Percent Change in Employment by Industry
U.S. and Alaska
1980-1985

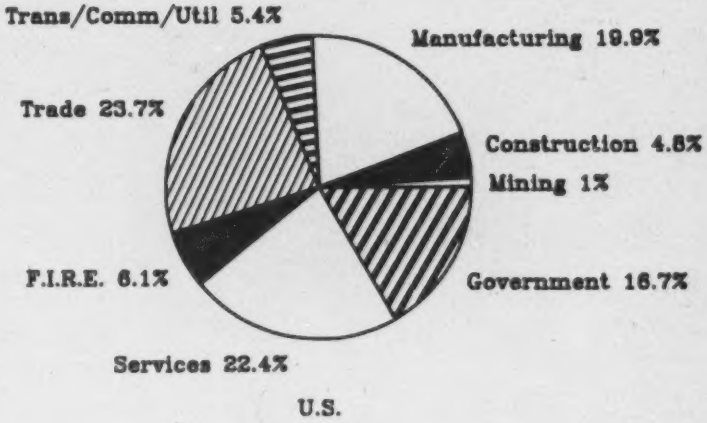
	U.S.		Alaska	
	Total Percent Change	**Annual Growth Rate**	**Total Percent Change**	**Annual Growth Rate**
Total	8.1%	1.6%	35.2%	7.0%
Mining	-5.6%	-1.1%	40.3%	8.1%
Construction	7.2%	1.5%	75.5%	15.1%
Manufacturing	-4.2%	-0.9%	-15.7%	-3.1%
Trans/Comm/Util	3.0%	0.6%	11.0%	2.2%
Wholesale Trade	9.4%	1.9%	58.2%	11.6%
Retail Trade	15.9%	3.2%	58.0%	11.6%
Finance/Ins/Real Est.	14.8%	3.0%	58.0%	11.6%
Services	22.6%	4.5%	50.3%	10.1%
Government	0.3%	0.1%	24.0%	4.8%
Federal	0.3%	0.1%	-0.6%	-0.1%
State	4.7%	0.9%	31.8%	6.4%
Local	-1.3%	-0.3%	38.5%	7.7%

Table 2
Percent Change in Employment by Industry
U.S. and Alaska
1970-1985

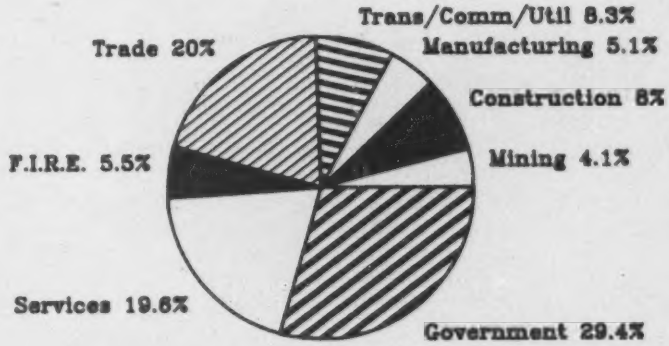
	U.S.		Alaska	
	Total Percent Change	**Annual Growth Rate**	**Total Percent Change**	**Annual Growth Rate**
Total	37.8%	2.5%	150.3%	10.0%
Mining	55.5%	3.7%	214.0%	14.3%
Construction	29.9%	2.0%	169.8%	11.3%
Manufacturing	0.3%	0.0%	50.5%	3.4%
Trans/Comm/Util	17.4%	1.2%	109.7%	7.3%
Wholesale Trade	44.5%	3.0%	168.2%	11.2%
Retail Trade	57.7%	3.9%	210.4%	14.0%
Finance/Ins/Real Est.	62.5%	4.2%	313.2%	20.9%
Services	89.9%	6.0%	290.4%	19.4%
Government	20.2%	1.4%	91.6%	6.1%
Federal	5.3%	0.4%	2.9%	0.2%
State	41.9%	2.8%	95.9%	6.4%
Local	34.7%	2.3%	273.9%	18.3%

Figure 1

Industry Share of Total Employment U.S. and Alaska, 1985



U.S.



Alaska

Alaska Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries 1/ 2/

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	P/ 3/86	R/ 2/86	P/ 3/85	R/ 3/86	P/ 2/86	R/ 3/85	3/86	2/86	3/85
Mining	1237.55	1179.12	1203.40	53.0	51.4	51.1	23.35	22.94	23.55
Construction	931.20	911.27	1034.15	40.0	39.5	43.0	23.28	23.07	24.05
Manufacturing	527.39	523.18	523.38	43.3	42.5	39.5	12.18	12.31	13.25
Food & Kindred Prod	323.68	311.58	315.49	44.4	42.8	36.6	7.29	7.28	8.62
Lumber & Paper Prod	672.74	645.89	609.51	46.3	46.5	41.1	14.53	13.89	14.83
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	557.28	547.71	574.53	36.4	36.2	36.9	15.31	15.13	15.57
Trade	379.95	383.79	381.47	33.3	33.2	33.2	11.41	11.56	11.49
Wholesale	499.34	528.07	504.38	37.8	37.8	37.5	13.21	13.97	13.45
Retail	335.91	332.12	336.22	31.6	31.6	31.6	10.63	10.51	10.64
Finance-Ins. & R.E	393.43	397.51	419.85	33.8	34.9	36.7	11.64	11.39	11.44

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

2/ excludes eating and drinking establishments

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES: Averages are based on data for full and part time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing) and are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.

A Contrast In Industry Mix

Both the similarities and major differences between the nation's employment and Alaska's are illustrated by the industry mix shown in Figure 1. Nationally the mining industry represents only 1% of the work force compared to 4% in Alaska. This is because of the presence of the oil industry in Alaska, the second largest oil producing state in the nation. Construction's 8% share of total employment in Alaska is also notably larger than its 5% share nationwide.Manufacturing's share of total employment is dramatically different. Nearly 20% of the nation's workforce is employed in manufacturing compared to 5% in Alaska. Alaska manufacturing employment is largely limited to fish processing and lumber. Manufacturing employment is low because of Alaska's distance from national markets, its small population, and its high labor costs. Given the geographic dispersion of Alaska, a larger share of Alaska's employment is devoted to the transportation, communications and utilities industry, 8% versus 5% nationally.

Government also represents a significantly larger share of employment in Alaska than nationwide. Federal and state government's share of total employment are more than twice the national average. A large military presence, large federal land holdings, oil wealth and the geographic size of the state have contributed to government's importance in Alaska. Local government in Alaska also occupies a larger share of total employment than nationally, but to a smaller degree.

Retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services employment in Alaska resemble the national picture more closely. In all three cases the percent share in Alaska is smaller, but over time the percent share in each industry has moved closer to the national norm, and given these industries historically strong growth rates, they should eventually approach the national share.

Alaska Compared to Other States

Alaska's employment levels were the smallest in the nation in 1970; but grew faster than employment levels in any other state from 1970 to 1985 so that by 1985 Alaska's employment levels were larger than those of two other states. During this period Alaska was the only state to average double digit employment growth rates. The 10% average annual growth rate was one percentage point greater than the next fastest growing state, Arizona, and was twice that of over 80% of the states (see Table 3).

With Alaska leading the pack, four out of the five fastest growing states from 1970 to 1985 were from the western region of the U.S. (see Figure 2). However, the fifteen year time frame masks cyclical employment trends. During the more recent period of 1980 to 1985, Alaska's em-

Table 3
Employment Growth by State and U.S. Average
1970-1985 and 1980-1985

	1970-1985			1980-1985		
	Total Percent Change	Annual Growth Rate	Rank	Total Percent Change	Annual Growth Rate	Rank
U.S. Average	37.8%	2.5%		8.1%	1.6%	
West	65.1%	4.3%		10.7%	2.2%	
ALASKA	150.3%	10.0%	1	35.2%	7.0%	1
Arizona	133.6%	- 8.9%	2	26.0%	5.2%	2
California	57.9%	3.9%	15	11.3%	2.3%	15
Colorado	89.6%	6.0%	6	13.7%	2.7%	7
Hawaii	43.9%	2.9%	24	4.4%	0.9%	30
Idaho	62.5%	4.2%	12	2.4%	0.5%	37
Montana	39.7%	2.7%	32	-0.7%	-0.1%	46
Nevada	119.7%	8.0%	3	11.5%	2.3%	13
New Mexico	76.8%	5.1%	9	11.4%	2.3%	14
Oregon	44.7%	3.0%	23	-1.5%	-0.3%	47
Utah	74.1%	4.9%	10	13.4%	2.7%	9
Washington	58.3%	3.9%	14	6.2%	1.2%	27
Wyoming	89.8%	6.0%	5	-2.4%	-0.5%	49
South	59.7%	4.0%		11.2%	2.2%	
Alabama	40.7%	2.7%	29	4.9%	1.0%	29
Arkansas	49.3%	3.3%	21	7.8%	1.6%	22
Delaware	35.0%	2.3%	35	13.1%	2.6%	10
Dist. of Columbia	10.9%	0.7%	48	2.1%	0.4%	39
Florida	105.5%	7.0%	4	23.7%	4.7%	3
Georgia	64.7%	4.3%	11	18.9%	3.8%	5
Kentucky	37.1%	2.5%	34	3.1%	0.6%	35
Louisiana	54.5%	3.6%	17	1.2%	0.2%	43
Maryland	39.7%	2.7%	31	10.1%	2.0%	18
Mississippi	43.7%	2.9%	25	1.2%	0.2%	42
North Carolina	48.4%	3.2%	22	11.2%	2.2%	16
Oklahoma	54.7%	3.6%	16	3.7%	0.7%	32
South Carolina	54.3%	3.6%	18	9.3%	1.9%	21
Tennessee	40.1%	2.7%	30	6.5%	1.3%	25
Texas	84.3%	5.6%	7	14.2%	2.8%	6
Virginia	61.1%	4.1%	13	13.4%	2.7%	8
West Virginia	15.3%	1.0%	46	-7.7%	-1.6%	51
North Central	20.0%	1.3%		1.4%	0.3%	
Illinois	9.7%	0.6%	49	-1.7%	-0.3%	48
Indiana	17.7%	1.2%	44	2.2%	0.4%	38
Iowa	21.7%	1.4%	43	-3.2%	-0.6%	50
Kansas	43.6%	2.9%	26	3.2%	0.6%	34
Michigan	16.6%	1.1%	45	1.8%	0.4%	41
Minnesota	41.9%	2.8%	27	5.4%	1.1%	28
Missouri	25.7%	1.7%	41	6.4%	1.3%	26
Nebraska	34.3%	2.3%	36	3.5%	0.7%	33
North Dakota	53.0%	3.5%	19	2.4%	0.5%	36
Ohio	12.8%	0.9%	47	0.3%	0.1%	44
South Dakota	41.7%	2.8%	28	4.2%	0.8%	31
Wisconsin	29.2%	1.9%	40	2.0%	0.4%	40
Northeast	17.8%	1.2%		7.2%	1.4%	
Connecticut	30.9%	2.1%	38	9.9%	2.0%	19
Maine	38.3%	2.6%	33	9.8%	2.0%	20
Massachusetts	29.4%	2.0%	39	10.3%	2.1%	17
New Hampshire	79.2%	5.3%	8	21.0%	4.2%	4
New Jersey	31.2%	2.1%	37	11.7%	2.4%	12
New York	8.4%	0.6%	51	7.6%	1.5%	23
Pennsylvania	8.8%	0.6%	50	-0.4%	-0.1%	45
Rhode Island	23.8%	1.6%	42	7.0%	1.4%	24
Vermont	51.4%	3.4%	20	12.0%	2.4%	11

Figure 2

ANNUAL
EMPLOYMENT GROWTH
RATE
AK
HI
WI
NE
IA
IL
IN
OH
PA
NY
VT
RI
NJ
MO
KY
WV
LESS THAN
2.5%

ployment gains remained number one and Arizona number two, but Nevada and Wyoming were replaced by New Hampshire and Georgia in the top five ranking. Nevada's ranking fell to thirteenth while Wyoming experienced employment declines, placing it at number 49. Both these states experienced declines in mining in the 1980s.

Seven out of the ten states with the fastest growing employment during the 1970 to 1985 period were western states, many with resource extraction based economies. Because of declines in mining and oil activity, only four of the top ten states were from the west from 1980 to 1985. In fact, three out of the six states with employment declines from 1980 to 1985 were from the western region.

Most of Alaska's employment growth since 1970 has been related to oil, principally by state oil revenues and secondarily by direct employment in the oil industry. Alaska is the second largest oil producing state, second to Texas and followed by Louisiana and Oklahoma. Employment growth rates in Alaska surpassed all other major oil producing states by a wide margin; Texas was the only other oil state to rank in the top ten from 1970 to 1985.

Employment levels in Alaska in 1970 were the lowest in the nation but by 1985 were greater than Wyoming and Vermont. In 1970 Alaska's average annual employment was 92,500; it rose to 231,400 by 1985, surpassing Wyoming by 26,400 jobs and Vermont by 7,400. This is not the first time Alaska's employment has risen above Wyoming's, but it's unlikely Alaska will fall below Wyoming again. (Briefly during the pipeline era Alaska's employment levels were 10% greater than Wyoming's and about the same as Vermont's, but by 1980 Alaska was again the smallest state as Wyoming had its own oil boom and Alaska's economy was just beginning to come out of the post-pipeline slump).

The five states with the smallest levels of employment (Alaska, Wyoming, Vermont, North Dakota and South Dakota) accounted for just over 1% of total employment nationally in 1985. At the other end of the spectrum, the five states with the greatest levels of employment (California, New York, Texas, Illinois and Pennsylvania) accounted for over 35% of the nation's total employment. The five smallest states all had employment growth rates faster than the national rate from 1970 to 1985, but only Alaska and Vermont experienced employment growth that was greater than the national average from 1980 to 1985. Wyoming had employment declines during that period.

Of the large states, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois grew substantially less than the national average from 1970 to 1985. Pennsylvania and Illinois had employment declines from 1980 to 1985. California and Texas have had growth rates consistently greater than the national

average. Texas' employment was the seventh fastest growing in the nation from 1970 to 1985, increasing by over three million new jobs over the fifteen year period. California had gains of four million new jobs over the same period.

Conclusion

Over the past fifteen years employment growth in Alaska has been nothing less than spectacular. Alaska's employment growth rate has ranked number one in the nation and as a result has lost its distinction as the state with the smallest level of employment. Alaska's industry employment mix sometimes contrasts sharply with the nation's, and in some areas increasingly resembles the national mix.

It is unlikely that Alaska will maintain this rate of employment growth. The outlook has been clouded by the present slump in Alaska's oil industry, a major contributor to the state's past record pace.

Alaska

By Edward Eboch

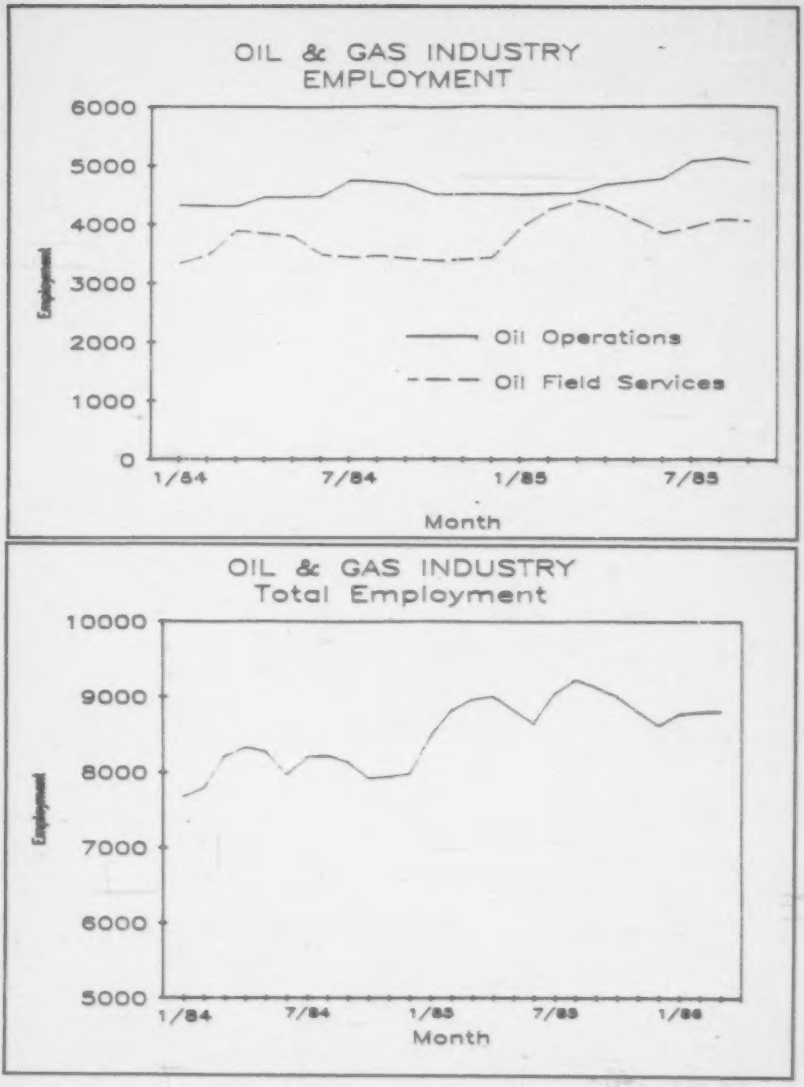
Oil Industry Employment

The declines in oil prices are affecting the employment outlook for Alaska beyond just the impact to state revenues and the cutbacks in state expenditures. Besides the anticipated drops in state government employment, declines in employment are already appearing in other industries. Most of the declines in the secondary industries are related to construction or the support industries for construction and oil and gas. Expectations of difficult times ahead are also discouraging spending and investments as indicated in the less than usual seasonal increases in employment for April.

Within the oil and gas industry, employment drops are concentrated in the exploration and construction segment of the industry. To properly analyze the impact of declines in both direct and indirect employment the industry must be divided into two subindustries (1) crude petroleum and natural gas operations and (2) oil and gas field services. Crude petroleum and natural gas operations is primarily engaged in operating oil and gas field properties, that is, all activities in the preparation of oil and gas up to the point of shipment. Oil and gas field services include firms working for a fee or on contract primarily engaged in specialty activities such as geological, geophysical, well surveying, perforating well casing, acidizing and chemically treating wells and building foundations at well locations.

The oil industry has very little secondary and tertiary impact on employment in Alaska. The impact in Alaska is largely limited to expenditures of employees payroll and the construction associated with the development of the oil fields. Nearly all manufacturing and assembly of equipment used in the oil industry is done outside Alaska. In fact, Marathon Oil will be building a new gas production platform in Cook Inlet this summer, the largest built in the inlet and the first since 1968. Cutbacks in future expansion and construction of modules will have more of an impact on Washington and Oregon manufacturing and construction employment than on Alaska employment. With the expansion plans for 1986 and 1987 proceeding, what impact that will be felt in Alaska will be from the loss of income to those resident employees who spend their earnings locally.

Loss of employment in the oil industry has so far been concentrated in the oil and gas field services segment of the industry. This decline has been largely offset by increases in the operations segment of the oil and gas industry (see graph). The loss of employment in the oil



field services segment will have less of an impact than might be expected since a large percentage of these employees will be out of state residents. Thirty-three percent of the employees in oil field services segment of the industry were found to be nonresidents (using data from the *Nonresidents Working in Alaska* study) while 29.2% of the wages paid went to nonresidents during the study period.

Within that segment of the industry engaged in the production of oil and gas, employment is increasing and is expected to continue to slowly increase over the next two years. Most of the projects scheduled for the North Slope in 1986 and 1987 will be completed as the projects are too far along to cancel. This expansion will require more operating and maintenance personnel on the North Slope as well as more support personnel. The percentage of employees in the operations segment of the industry who live out of state is relatively small when compared to the industry in general (10.9% versus 22.9%). In addition, the percentage of income earned by nonresidents is even smaller (6.3%). Assuming these relationships still hold, the net effect in changes in employment may be an increase of in-state jobs in the oil industry.

While the large projects on the North Slope help support the construction industry, the large associated sea lifts negatively affect the transportation industry. The sea lifts appear to carry some goods and materials that would otherwise be moved by the instate transportation network. The net impact is a decline in transportation employment.

Conclusion

While low oil prices will affect employment levels in Alaska, most of the impact will be from loss of state revenues and accompanied decline in state funded activities. Changes in oil industry employment will have little impact on the level of total employment in Alaska over the next two years. The large development projects now in progress on the North Slope will help to offset employment losses in the construction industry as a result of cutbacks in state expenditures.

Current Events

In April, preliminary estimates showed a decline in employment from the previous year. Mining and construction led the decline, but the employment losses were broad based with the construction support segments of transportation, trade, and services also suffering losses.

Uncertainty about oil prices, state governments cutback in expenditures, and late winter snows all contributed to a disappointing April. However the employment picture should brighten in May. The fiscal year (7/86-6/87) budget for the state recently adopted by the legislature, while less than the previous year, was much larger than expected and should result in only modest cuts in employment. In addition, oil prices are beginning to strengthen and the tourist season is getting under way.

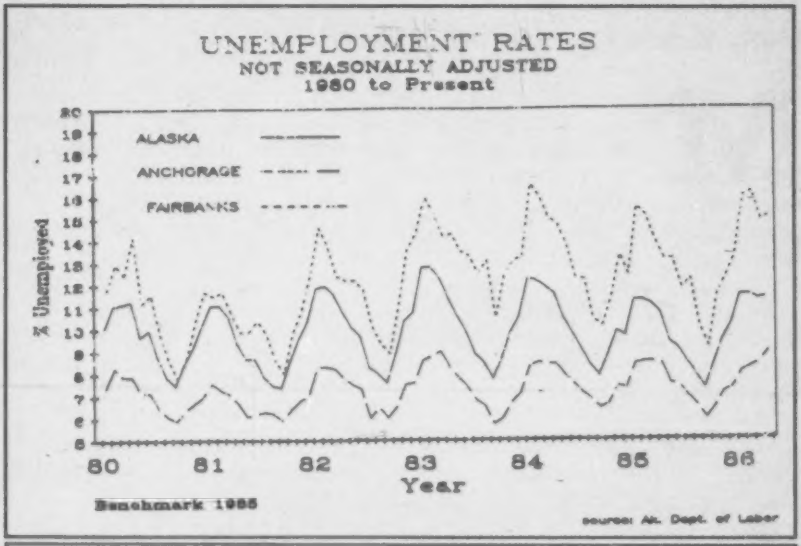
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Alaska

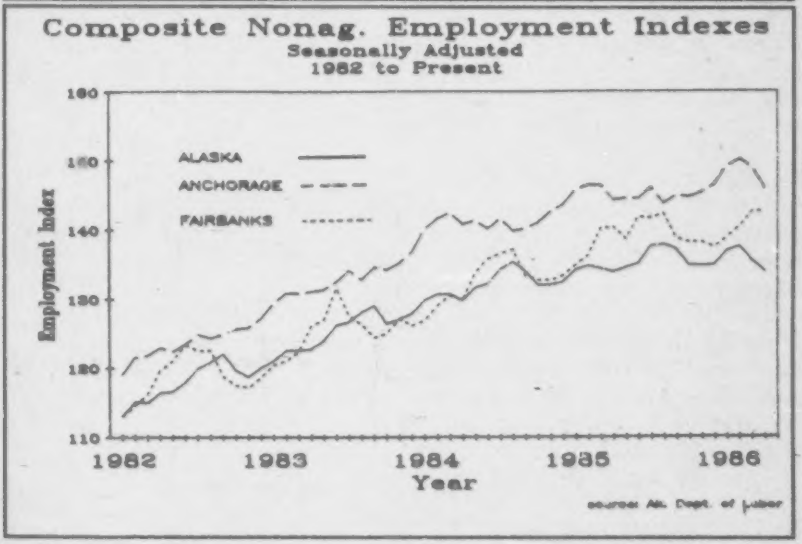
	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	4/85	Changes From: 3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	225000	220600	225300	4400	-300
Mining	9000	9100	9600	-100	-600
Construction	14100	12500	15900	1600	-1800
Manufacturing	10100	8400	10000	1700	100
Food & Kindred Prod.	4100	3100	4200	1000	-100
Lumber & Paper Prod.	2600	2000	2400	600	200
All Other Mfg.	3400	3300	3400	100	0
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	18300	18000	18900	300	-600
Trucking & Whseing.	2100	2100	2200	0	-100
Water Transportation	1300	1200	1400	100	-100
Air Transportation	6000	5800	6100	200	-100
Other Trans. Comm. & Utilities	8900	8900	9200	0	-300
Trade	44700	44100	44800	600	-100
Wholesale	8400	8300	8600	100	-200
Retail	36300	35800	36200	500	100
Gen. Mer. & Apparel	5100	5100	5100	0	0
Food Stores	6000	6200	6000	-200	0
Eating & Drinking Pl.	13500	12700	13000	800	500
Other Retail Trade	11700	11800	12100	-100	-400
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	12900	12900	12500	0	400
Services & Misc.	45400	45300	44200	100	1200
Government	70500	70300	69400	200	1100
Federal	17900	17800	17200	100	700
State	21000	20800	21100	200	-100
Local	31600	31700	31100	-100	500

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Government includes teachers in primary and secondary schools, and personnel employed by the University of Alaska.

Benchmark Date March 1985.

p/ Denotes preliminary estimates.
r/ Denotes revised estimates.


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
1980 to Present
ALASKA
ANCHORAGE
FAIRBANKS
% Unemployed
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
Year
Benchmark 1985
source: Ak. Dept. of Labor


Composite Nonag. Employment Indexes
Seasonally Adjusted
1982 to Present
ALASKA
ANCHORAGE
FAIRBANKS
Employment Index
160
150
140
130
120
110
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
Year
source: Ak. Dept. of Labor

Anchorage/MatSu

By Greg Huff

MatSu Employment Overview 1980-1985

MatSu employment grew 120% from 1980-1985, making MatSu the fastest growing area in the state. This growth rate was nearly 3.5 times greater than the statewide average and 2.8 times greater than Anchorage's growth rate. MatSu's rapid employment growth occurred during a period of unprecedented population growth in the Wasilla and Palmer areas. Hence, most of the employment gains were in industries providing goods and services to MatSu residents and to associated residential and commercial construction. An economic analysis of Alaska during this period cannot leave unmentioned state government policies and revenues since their combined effects set the stage for this vibrant economic period.

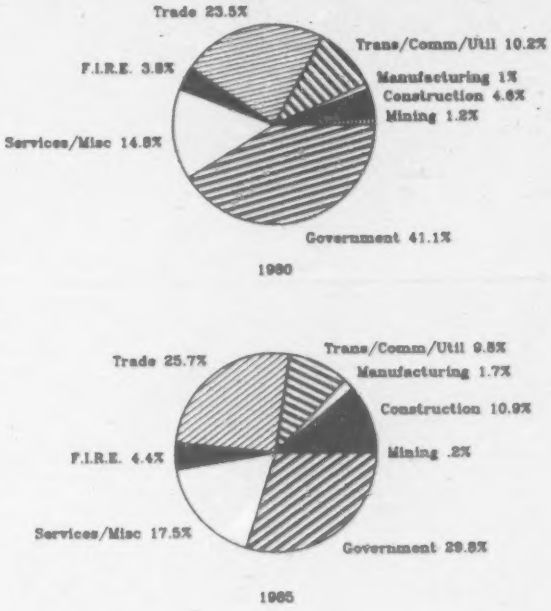
Alaska state government stimulated economic growth in a variety of ways including capital project grants, mortgage subsidies, dividend checks and tax relief. Over the period, millions of dollars were appropriated by the state legislature for capital projects ranging from fire houses to road projects. Meanwhile, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) provided subsidized mortgages. In addition, the state funded nearly two-thirds of the MatSu Borough's operating budget, helping to hold down taxes, to relieve debt obligations, and to enhance funding for education.

Matsu's population grew from 17,816 in 1980 to 29,836 in 1984, an increase of 68% (1984 population figure is the most recent Dept. of Labor estimate). The population gains were primarily a result of in-migration from Anchorage and the lower 48. In fact, the MatSu region had the highest in-migration rate in the state.

Over four-fifths of the population gain was due to newly arrived residents with the other one-fifth due to natural growth (births over deaths). According to statistics compiled by Research and Analysis, the in-migration rate attributable to the lower 48 was second only to the Anchorage rate. Moreover, the in-migration rate from elsewhere in the state to the MatSu Borough area was the highest in the state.

Most of the new residents from Anchorage came to take advantage of lower home prices. Multiple Listing Service (MLS) statistics show that the average selling price of a single family residence in Anchorage was 27% greater than for a comparable unit in the MatSu Valley. This was very attractive to many Anchorage workers despite the higher transportation costs associated with the extended com-

1980 and 1985
MatSu Borough
Employment by Industry*



*Based on first 9 months of data for each year.

muter trip. (According to the Census Bureau 37% of MatSu Borough residents were employed outside the Borough in 1980).

Because of the rapid population growth, the majority of the new jobs in the area were related either to construction to various service industries, or to retail trade. Construction employment grew 590% from 1980 to 1984 but fell in 1985. The result was a net gain of 600 jobs in construction over the 1980 levels. Employment in the retail trade industry increased by 950 jobs from 1980 to 1985 while the services sector accounted for an additional 640 new jobs. (The services sector consists of businesses providing lodging facilities, medical care and a host of personal and business services). Other service oriented industries, such as those providing electricity and telephone services

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Average Montly Employment

	3Q 1980	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	3Q 1984	3Q 1985
Mining	36	34	99	101	21	9	9	14
Construction	142	151	253	518	778	971	983	742
Manufacturing	30	44	106	70	67	111	112	116
Trans. Comm. & Util.	314	319	343	381	525	595	587	666
Trade	725	733	748	898	1,173	1,547	1,499	1,748
Wholesale	46	44	44	54	64	97	96	122
Retail	679	689	704	845	1,109	1,450	1,403	1,626
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	117	120	131	189	208	280	280	296
Services & Misc.	457	450	559	612	807	1,006	1,097	1,191
Government	1,269	1,280	1,354	1,486	1,672	1,874	1,794	2,027
Federal	119	116	104	102	104	112	111	100
State	388	400	456	541	591	647	634	729
Local	762	768	794	843	977	1,116	1,048	1,198
Total Employment	3,089	3,137	3,596	4,279	5,251	6,397	6,265	6,801
Wages (millions)	$15.5	$15.1	$19.3	$25.2	$30.7	$39.8	$39.0	$40.9
Number of firms	398	398	414	449	640	710	654	900

Source: Alaska Department of Labor ES-202.
Note: ES-202 employment data does not perfectly match employment data published in *Statistical Quarterly*. ES-202 data was used for this analysis because of the timeliness of the ES-202 data compared to published data. ES-202 data is generally from 2% to 4.4% lower than data published in the *Statistical Quarterly*.

or financial services also benefited from the rapid population growth in the MatSu region. Employment in the transportation, communication and utility industry increased 22% annually from 1980 to 1985, while employment in the finance, insurance and real estate sector rose 31% annually.

To meet the growing demands for government services (such as road maintenance, law enforcement, and education) employment in the government sector also grew, but at a slower rate than in the private sector. As a result, the government share of total employment has declined from 41% in 1980 to less than 30% in 1985, about the same proportion as found statewide. Local government represents the largest government component, and within local government the school district was the fastest growing. MatSu school employment increased 70% from 1980 to 1985.

Construction activity in the MatSu region was in response to the population increases and state revenue sharing and grants. The number of new construction jobs in the MatSu region made it the fastest grow-

Labor Force By Region and Census Area

	Labor Force			Unemployment			Rate			Employment		
	P/ 4/86	R/ 3/86	P/ 4/85	R/ 4/86	P/ 3/86	R/ 4/85	P/ 4/86	R/ 3/86	4/85	4/86	3/86	4/85
Alaska Statewide	259616	252231	248057	29661	28598	26662	11.4	11.3	10.7	229955	223633	221395
Anch-MatSu Region	139098	137068	132874	13747	13040	12396	9.9	9.5	9.3	125351	124028	120478
Anchorage Borough	121696	119795	116363	10829	10098	9806	8.9	8.4	8.4	110867	109697	106557
MatSu Borough	17402	17273	16511	2918	2942	2590	16.8	17.0	15.7	14484	14331	13921
Gulf Coast Region	27369	25966	25632	4437	4155	4004	16.2	16.0	15.6	22932	21801	21628
Kenai Peninsula Bor	17426	16573	16116	3242	3088	2738	18.6	18.6	17.0	14184	13485	13378
Kodiak Island Borough	6171	5735	5995	640	477	779	10.4	8.3	13.0	5531	5258	5216
Valdez-Cordova	3772	3648	3521	555	590	487	14.7	16.2	13.8	3217	3058	3034
Interior Region	40487	38721	38190	5949	5620	4934	14.7	14.5	12.9	34538	33101	33256
Fairbanks North Star Br	32875	31418	30909	4964	4669	4035	15.1	14.9	13.1	27911	26749	26874
Southeast Fairbanks	3219	3107	3036	400	405	321	12.4	13.0	10.6	2819	2702	2715
Yukon-Koyukuk	4393	4196	4245	585	546	578	13.3	13.0	13.6	3808	3650	3667
Northern Region	8413	8181	8413	1068	905	906	12.7	11.1	10.8	7345	7276	7507
Kobuk	2645	2575	2629	347	298	280	13.1	11.6	10.7	2298	2277	2349
Nome	3605	3495	3561	539	458	427	15.0	13.1	12.0	3066	3037	3134
North Slope Borough	2163	2111	2223	182	149	199	8.4	7.1	9.0	1981	1962	2024
Southeast Region	33152	32005	32435	3342	3946	3360	10.1	12.3	10.4	29810	28059	29075
Haines Borough	1077	1042	1065	147	167	158	13.6	16.0	14.8	930	875	907
Juneau Borough	13028	12382	12619	1237	1283	1119	9.5	10.4	8.9	11791	11099	11500
Ketchikan Gateway Bor	7059	6773	6863	712	799	672	10.1	11.8	9.8	6347	5974	6191
Pr of Wales-Outer Ketch	2485	2441	2445	319	403	333	12.8	16.5	13.6	2166	2038	2112
Sitka Borough	3983	3901	3905	293	427	306	7.4	10.9	7.8	3690	3474	3599
Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon	2040	2002	2055	306	370	364	15.0	18.5	17.7	1734	1632	1691
Wrangell-Petersburg	3480	3464	3483	328	497	408	9.4	14.3	11.7	3152	2967	3075
Southwest Region	11097	10300	10513	1118	932	1062	10.1	9.0	10.1	9979	9368	9451
Aleutian Islands	2560	2369	2399	121	79	89	4.7	3.3	3.7	2439	2290	2310
Bethel	4376	4077	4148	505	443	482	11.5	10.9	11.6	3871	3634	3666
Bristol Bay Borough	438	416	407	50	52	40	11.4	12.5	9.8	388	364	367
Dillingham	1930	1770	1822	210	155	193	10.9	8.8	10.6	1720	1615	1629
Wade Hampton	1793	1668	1737	232	203	258	12.9	12.2	14.9	1561	1465	1479

P/ Preliminary R/ Revised 1985 Benchmark

Federal guidelines require the use of unrounded labor force data, adjusted to be consistent with the Current Population Survey (CPS) in formulas used to allocate federal funds. Comparisons between different time periods are not as meaningful as other time series published by the Alaska Department of Labor, because Alaska's CPS sample size is inadequate to accurately indicate monthly changes in level. The sampling errors are random in nature, meaning that the unemployment rates, in any given month, are as likely to be high as frequently as they are low. The official definitions of unemployment, currently in place, exclude anyone who has made no attempt to find work in the four week period up to and including the week that includes the twelfth of each month. Most economists feel that Alaska's bush localities have proportionately more of these discouraged workers.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Anchorage

	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	4/85	Changes From: 3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	112800	112350	111700	450	1100
Mining	4250	4350	4400	-100	-150
Construction	5950	5650	7250	100	-1300
Manufacturing	2600	2400	2550	200	50
Food & Kindred Prod.	500	350	500	150	0
Other Mfg.	2100	2050	2050	50	50
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	9600	9450	9950	150	-350
Trucking & Whseing.	1150	1150	1200	0	-50
Water Transportation	300	300	300	0	0
Air Transportation	3900	3700	3900	200	0
Other Trans. Comm. & Utilities	4250	4300	4550	-50	-300
Trade	27300	27000	26750	300	550
Wholesale	6300	6250	6500	50	-200
Retail	21000	20750	20250	250	750
Gen. Merchandise	1850	1900	1800	-50	50
Food Stores	3050	3100	2950	-50	100
Eating & Drinking Pl.	8050	7750	7800	300	250
Other Retail Trade	8050	8000	7700	50	350
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	8750	8700	8550	50	200
Services & Misc.	27000	27250	25750	-250	1250
Government	27350	27350	26500	0	850
Federal	10200	10050	9700	150	500
State	7550	7550	7450	0	100
Local	9600	9750	9350	-150	250

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Anchorage-MatSu

	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	4/85	Changes From: 3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	120350	119950	118800	400	1550
Mining	4300	4350	4400	-50	-100
Construction	6450	6400	7750	50	-1300
Manufacturing	2700	2450	2600	250	100
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	10300	10150	10650	150	-350
Trade	29200	28900	28550	300	650
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	9200	9250	9100	-50	100
Services & Misc.	28300	28550	26950	-250	1350
Government	29900	29900	28800	0	1100

ing industry in the area, however, jobs in this industry could be lost just a fast as they were created. The 24% employment decline in construction in 1985 indicates what is in store in light of falling state revenues and a stabilizing population.

The Independence Mine outside of Palmer, once the area's largest gold lode mining operation, had a brief opening from 1980 to 1982 causing mining employment to peak at 101 jobs in 1982. However, with the quality and quantity of the ore available gold prices could not support the operation.

A slump in the demand for prefabricated buildings caused fluctuations in manufacturing employment from 1980 to 1983. Employment growth after 1983 was based primarily in the food processing sector.

As the population grew new firms opened in the MatSu area. From 1980 to 1985, the number of firms increased from 398 to 900, a 25% annual growth rate. When the number of jobs increases and the number of firms increases, total payroll increases as well. Over the period total wages and salaries paid in MatSu rose from $15 million to over $40 million.

Conclusion

The MatSu region, particularly the Wasilla and Palmer areas, went through a period of rapid economic and population expansion from 1980 to 1985. The private sector grew faster than the government sector and most of the gains in employment were in industries providing a service or selling merchandise. The period of rapid expansion appears, however, to be over. Construction employment fell in 1985 and the overall employment growth rate was 9% compared to 23% the previous year. Employment growth in 1986 will be even smaller.

Anchorage Current Trends

April is the month Anchorage normally shows a substantial jump in nonagricultural employment over the previous month. This year the increase was only 450 jobs, compared to 1,650 jobs gained last April. However, Anchorage had a total of 1,100 more jobs this April than last. Three industries have lost employment since last year: mining; construction; and transportation, communication, and utilities.

Anchorage's unemployment rate increased from 8.4% in March to 8.9% in April. This is also higher than last April's rate of 8.4%. An increase in the number of unemployed construction workers is the primary cause for this higher rate.

Fairbanks/Interior

By Neal Fried

Doyon Employment Trends

After four years of growth in employment, the most recent data for the Doyon region indicates a change of events. Employment data for the first nine months of 1985 indicate the employment trend has reversed itself. In 1985, employment declined by 0.5% in the Doyon region.

Fairbanks' employment is excluded from these numbers because it would mask activity taking place elsewhere in the Doyon region. If Fairbanks' data were included, the region would have had employment growth in 1985. The fact that Fairbanks' employment has continued to grow while the rural area's employment has fallen illustrates the different trends that are taking place in rural and urban Alaska. When Doyon's employment was growing, it grew less vigorously than Fairbanks'. Doyon's employment grew 25% from 1980-1984 compared to the 32% rate for Fairbanks. Fairbanks' employment growth has slowed considerably, but it is still growing.

Though government has been responsible for much of the area's growth in employment in the past, it is now having the reverse effect. Federal government employment has declined because of cut backs in most federal agencies personnel and the transfer of the Alaska Railroad from federal to state ownership. The state and local government employment picture was mixed; state government grew and local government remained flat. In the past, local government was the largest contributor to the area's growth in employment.

Doyon
Wage and Salary Employment

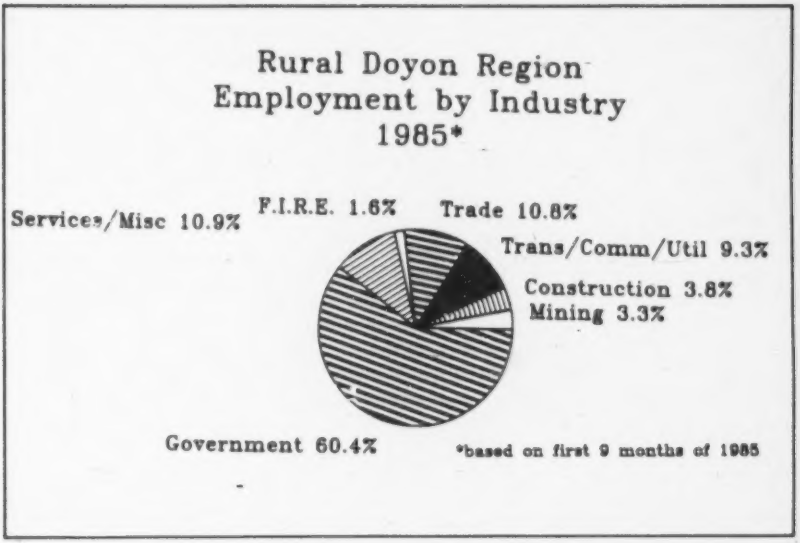
	1980	1984*	1985*	Percent* Growth 1984-1985
Total	3,185	3,987	3,969	0.5%
Mining	140	107	130	21.5%
Construction	66	120	151	25.8%
Manufacturing	29	25	19	-24.0%
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	357	409	368	-10.0%
Trade	297	437	425	-2.7%
Wholesale	20	41	53	29.3%
Retail	277	396	372	-6.1%
Finance-Ins.& Real E.	52	65	62	-4.6%
Services & Misc.	353	372	411	10.5%
Government	1,891	2,450	2,404	-1.9%
Federal	641	728	636	-12.6%
State	268	341	384	12.6%
Local	982	1,381	1,383	0.1%

Note: Due to revisions, the data in this table do not match that published in this section of the April 1985 *Alaska Economic Trends*.

* 1984 and 1985 are based on 9 month averages.

Employment increased in mining, construction, and services. These industries made gains because Usibelli's coal mine began exporting coal to Korea, substantial state capital construction expenditures were made from past appropriations, and tourism helped increased the demand for services.

On the downside were retail trade and transportation, communications, and utilities. The reason for retail trade's decline is not clear because it is a major beneficiary of tourism. A sluggish economy is the most likely cause. Transportation, communications and utilities employment fell because the military modernized their remote tracking stations in the region which eliminated positions. One station closed and the others were able to operate with smaller staffs.



Tourism should give the highway communities an additional economic boost. Denali National Park is expecting a record year, possibly as much as 40% above year-ago levels. Border traffic, for the first quarter 1986, is already greater than last year. Tourism is projected to grow because of the weak dollar, cheap gasoline, and international terrorism.

In 1986 employment will fall because of the area's heavy reliance on government. All levels of government are feeling pressure to cut back as a result of the federal Gramm Rudman legislation and declining state revenues. Construction will also be a victim of falling oil revenues.

Current Trends

Fairbanks unemployment rate increased to 15.1% in April. This indicates some sluggishness for this time of the year when the unemployment rate more typically begins to fall. This year's rate is also two points above the unemployment rate in April of 1985 (13.1%). A weak construction season and an overall slower economy has contributed to Fairbanks' higher unemployment rate.

On the bright side, wage and salary employment made its first substantial seasonal increase in April. The number of jobs grew by 1050. Over-the-year employment also continued to register growth. There were 550 more jobs in April of 1986 than during April of 1985.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Fairbanks

	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	4/85	Changes From: 3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	29150	28100	28600	1050	550
Mining	100	100	150	0	-50
Construction	2600	2100	2900	500	-300
Manufacturing	600	550	550	50	50
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	2750	2750	2750	0	0
Trucking & Whseing.	450	500	500	-50	-50
Air Transportation	900	850	850	50	50
Other Trans. Comm. & Utilities	1400	1400	1400	0	0
Trade	6150	5850	5900	300	250
Wholesale	950	950	950	0	0
Retail	5200	4900	4950	300	250
Gen. Mer. & Apparel	550	550	500	0	50
Food Stores	850	750	800	100	50
Other Retail Trade	3800	3600	3650	200	150
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	1100	1000	1000	100	100
Services & Misc.	5900	5900	5600	0	300
Government	9950	9850	9750	100	200
Federal	2700	2650	2650	50	50
State	4300	4250	4250	50	50
Local	2950	2950	2850	0	100

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Interior

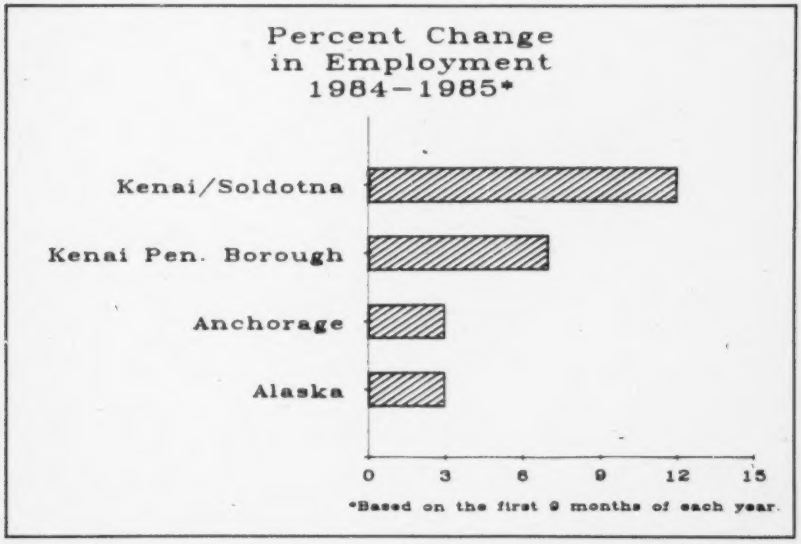
	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	4/85	Changes From: 3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	32950	31750	32550	1200	400
Mining	250	200	300	50	-50
Construction	2750	2200	3000	550	-250
Manufacturing	600	550	600	50	0
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	3000	3000	3050	0	-50
Trade	6450	6250	6300	200	150
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	1150	1050	1050	100	100
Services & Misc.	6300	6200	6050	100	250
Government	12450	12300	12200	150	250

Gulf Coast

By Neal Fried

Kenai-Soldotna: Another Year of Growth

The Kenai-Soldotna area's employment grew by 12% in 1985 and 55 new businesses were started in the area. This employment growth compares to 3% statewide. In 1985 the Kenai-Soldotna area recorded its strongest year in employment growth in five years and Alaska, its slowest. It also remained the hot spot on the Kenai Peninsula, growing five percentage points faster than the entire borough.



In 1985 all major industry categories increased employment. Wholesale trade was the only industry that failed to have increased employment but increases in retail trade more than offset the losses in wholesale trade. The top three contributors to employment were retail trade, construction and manufacturing. Retail trade has benefitted from a growing population, increasing income, and an expanding tourist sector. Its growth has also been augmented by the national trend of eating out more and the increased demand for specialty retail goods.

Kenai-Soldotna
Wage and Salary Employment
1984-1985

	Nine Months 1984	1985	Employment Growth 1984-1985	Percent Change 1984-1985
Total	7,726	8,654	928	12%
Mining	595	703	108	18%
Construction	905	1050	145	16%
Manufacturing	992	1216	224	23%
Food and Kindred	460	662	202	44%
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	603	611	8	1%
Trade	1,592	1,793	201	13%
Wholesale	339	277	-62	)18%
Retail	1,253	1,516	263	21%
Finance, Ins. & R.E.	263	267	4	2%
Services & Misc.	1,151	1,228	77	7%
Government	1,623	1,734	111	7%
Federal	97	108	11	11%
State	508	560	52	10%
Local	1,018	1,066	48	5%

Construction experienced another good year. Residential construction slowed, but both commercial and public construction increased employment. Manufacturing employment increased because the fish processors had a good year. The summer salmon season was exceptional in Cook Inlet as well as statewide, pushing fish processing employment to the highest it has been in six years.

Three other industries that exhibited respectable gains were government, mining (oil and gas), and services. All three levels of government increased employment, but state and local government accounted for the lions share of the growth. Service employment grew for many of the same reasons as retail trade.

Much of the momentum of 1985 will carry over to 1986 for the Kenai-Soldotna area. Though employment growth will not be as vigorous as it was last year, it will remain relatively strong, particularly in light of oil revenue declines. Construction may not grow as residential construction softens further and commercial construction has probably peaked, but a busy public construction season will help supplement some of these losses. Another good salmon fishing season is being predicted. Also, a record numbers of tourists are expected in 1986. The Kenai-Soldotna area will be one of the economic bright spots in Alaska in 1986.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Gulf Coast

	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	Changes From: 4/85	3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	19800	19000	19050	800	750
Mining	800	750	800	50	0
Construction	1700	1500	1600	200	100
Manufacturing	2000	1850	2050	150	-50
Food & Kindred Prod.	1350	1200	1400	150	-50
All Other Mfg.	650	650	650	0	0
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	1800	1750	1750	50	50
Trade	3800	3650	3550	150	250
Wholesale	450	500	450	-50	0
Retail	3350	3150	3100	200	250
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	650	650	600	0	50
Services & Misc.	3250	3150	3050	100	200
Government	5800	5700	5650	100	150
Federal	550	550	500	0	50
State	1600	1550	1700	50	-100
Local	3650	3600	3450	50	200

Current Trends

The Kenai Peninsula Borough's unemployment rate remained high in April. The Borough's rate of 18.6% was the highest in the State and remained unchanged from the previous month. It was also considerably higher than last April's rate of 17.0%. Kodiak's unemployment rate climbed in April to 10.4% and Valdez-Cordova's fell to 14.7%. The unemployment rates for these two areas will begin to exhibit significant seasonal improvement during the coming months when the fishing and tourism seasons get underway.

Southeast Alaska

By John Boucher

Greens Creek and Quartz Hill Update

Southeast Alaska has two of the state's three most promising mineral developments with the Greens Creek joint venture on Admiralty Island near Juneau and at Quartz Hill in the Misty Fiords National Monument near Ketchikan. At present neither of the projects is expected to have much of an impact on Southeast employment this summer, but both projects remain very strong candidates for future employment in the region. Recent developments surrounding Green's Creek and Quartz Hill could have an impact on the length of time before these projects begin contributing to the Southeast economy.

Greens Creek

The Greens Creek venture is currently in the process of a change in ownership. Amselco Minerals Inc., a subsidiary of the British Petroleum Company, has purchased Anaconda Mining's share of the project and has reached an agreement with Noranda Mining to buy their portion pending the approval of other minority partners. The buy out of Noranda would give Amselco controlling interest in the mine and according to an Amselco spokesman should facilitate earlier development of the project. An accelerated work program for the mine site is currently under consideration by the company, but even if it were adopted, it is unlikely that the mine would begin production before 1988.

Prospects for Greens Creek are largely dependent upon the market for silver, which at the current time remains depressed. Green's Creek also has significant quantities of gold, lead and zinc that would be recovered, but the price of silver has the largest fiscal impact on the project. According to Noranda spokesmen, work plans are already on file with the Forest Service for the summer, so any takeover by Amselco would not delay work planned for this year.

Quartz Hill

The Quartz Hill molybdenum mine is currently in the final stages of environmental review by the U.S. Forest Service. A draft of the Forest Service's environmental impact statement is due for public review shortly and one decision in particular will have a significant impact on the project. At present U.S. Borax is hoping to dispose of mine tailings in Wilson Arm as opposed to a plan that would have the tailings deposited in the Boca de Quadra fiord which would require an addi-

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
By Place of Work
Southeast Alaska

	p/ 4/86	r/ 3/86	Changes From: 4/85	3/86	4/85
Nonag. Wage & Salary	29200	27650	29250	1550	-50
Construction	1350	1200	1500	150	-150
Manufacturing	3350	2400	3100	950	250
Food & Kindred Prod.	800	450	800	350	0
Lumber & Paper Prod.	2350	1750	2100	600	250
All Other Mfg.	200	200	200	0	0
Trans. Comm. & Utilities	1900	1850	2100	50	-200
Trade	4400	4250	4400	150	0
Wholesale	350	350	350	0	0
Retail	4050	3900	4050	150	0
Finance-Ins. & R.E.	1100	1100	1100	0	0
Mining, Services & Misc.	4450	4350	4400	100	50
Government	12650	12500	12650	150	0
Federal	2100	2050	2050	50	50
State	5700	5650	5800	50	-100
Local	4850	4800	4800	50	50

tional $50 million capital outlay at the projects front end. Should the Forest Service go against Borax's first choice, the mine would face a delay in opening due to the additional capital costs that would have to be recovered.

According to a Borax spokesman, even if all aspects of the EIS were favorable at the present time, development of the project would still be on hold because of poor market conditions for molybdenum. Currently molybdenum producers already in place are operating only at 50% of capacity. Should molybdenum prices recover, operators working at less than capacity or currently shutdown could be up and running faster and at a significantly smaller capital outlay than the billion dollars estimated to put Quartz Hill into production. The size and the favorable location of the deposit would make it a very strong competitor in the marketplace, but with a front end investment of a billion dollars, prices that provide revenue in excess of operating costs will be necessary for the project to proceed.

The long term prospects in the molybdenum markets is favorable. An invigorated world economy enhances the outlook for the consumption of alloy steel which is molybdenum's primary use. Lower oil prices are a two edged sword for the project: on the one hand, lower oil prices are stimulating the economy and making power costs for the

operation lower; but on the other hand the oil industry, particularly petroleum exploration, is one of the leading consumers of stainless steel. Historically, the demand for molybdenum has experienced an annual growth rate of about 5%, which bodes well for eventual development of the Quartz Hill project.

Current Trends

Southeast Alaska wage and salary employment increased by 1,550 jobs in the month of April largely as a result of strong increases in manufacturing employment. The lumber and paper products sector of the Southeast economy gained nearly 600 jobs as logging camps geared up and the Wrangell sawmill returned to work after a maintenance shutdown in March. The invigorated employment picture contributed to the fall in the Southeast unemployment rate during the month. Southeast Alaska was the only region of the state to experience a decline in the number of unemployed in April.

Hours and Earnings

By John Boucher

Total and Per Capita Personal Income Data for 1984

Total and per capita personal income data for Alaska's 23 census areas for 1984 show that growth in per capita income in Alaska slowed significantly in 1984, growing at an annual rate of one percent. Total personal income also registered its smallest growth rate in the past five years, growing at slightly less than five percent. This marked the first time since 1979 that the growth rate in total personal income in Alaska was lower than the national growth rate (10% in 1984). Of the 23 census divisions in Alaska, two areas had growth rates that were higher than the national average, and eight areas had growth rates higher than the statewide average.

The Haines Borough had the highest growth rate in per capita income in 1984, growing at a rate of 13%. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough, which has the highest annual average growth rate in the state since 1959, grew at a 12% rate. Matanuska-Susitna's annual growth rate since 1959 has been 17.2%. Four Alaska census areas experienced lower per capita income in 1984 than in 1983. The Wrangell-Petersburg census areas per capita income fell 13% in 1984, Dillingham fell 2% as did Yukon-Koyukuk, and the Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan census areas per capita income fell 1%. The highest per capita income in the state continued to be in the North Slope Borough, where income averaged $26,077 per resident during 1984. After North Slope, the other regions in the top five with the highest per capita income are the Juneau Borough at $21,253, the Fairbanks North Star Borough at $20,764, the Bristol Bay Borough at $20,472, and Anchorage at $19,188. It is interesting to note that 53% of Alaska's population live in the top five per capita income areas of the state.

The following are per capita income and total personal income tables from the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. Historical series are available from Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis.

Per Capita Income
Alaska
1983 & 1984

Census Area 2/	1983 Per Capita Income	1984 Per Capita Income	Percent Change	1984 Percent of National Average
ALASKA	$17,380	$17,550	1.0%	137%
Aleutian Islands 1/	16,143	16,715	3.5%	131%
Anchorage Borough	18,736	19,188	2.4%	150%
Bethel	10,029	10,050	0.2%	79%
Bristol Bay Borough	19,427	20,472	5.4%	160%
Dillingham	11,097	10,852	-2.2%	85%
Fairbanks North Star	20,488	20,764	1.3%	163%
Haines Borough	15,305	17,250	12.7%	135%
Juneau Borough	20,840	21,253	2.0%	166%
Kenai Borough	12,961	13,237	2.1%	104%
Ketchikan Borough	18,531	18,138	2.2%	142%
Kobuk	11,604	11,822	1.9%	93%
Kodiak Is. Borough 1/	12,985	11,826	8.9%	93%
MatSu Borough	15,627	14,197	9.2%	111%
Nome	13,960	14,265	2.2%	112%
North Slope Borough	24,675	26,077	5.7%	204%
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	14,642	14,460	1.2%	113%
Sitka Borough	15,947	16,090	0.8%	126%
Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon	14,880	16,124	8.4%	126%
Southeast Fairbanks	12,215	12,685	3.9%	99%
Valdez-Cordova	16,414	17,536	6.8%	137%
Wade Hampton 1/	7,089	7,466	5.3%	58%
Wrangell-Petersburg	18,152	15,812	-12.9%	124%
Yukon-Koyukuk 1/	9,743	9,573	-1.7%	75%

1/ Total and per capita personal income time series are discontinuous due to a large revision in military wages for 1977-84.

2/ Alaska census areas as defined by the 1980 decennial census.

Total Personal Income
Alaska
1983 & 1984
(in millions)

Census Area 2/	1983 Total Personal Income	1984 Total Personal Income	Percent Change	1959-84 Annual Growth Rate
ALASKA	$8,366.0	$8770.9	5%	11.8%
Aleutian Islands 1/	117.9	119.3	1%	--
Anchorage Borough	4,144.4	4,349.1	6%	12.2%
Bethel	112.9	113.8	1%	--
Bristol Bay Borough	22.2	23.2	4%	10.6%
Dillingham	53.6	54.6	2%	--
Fairbanks North Star	1,247.8	1,293.1	4%	10.7%
Haines Borough	28.6	32.3	13%	--
Juneau Borough	478.4	505.3	6%	11.7%
Kenai Borough	459.9	499.5	9%	--
Ketchikan Borough	233.1	232.1	-	10.4%
Kobuk	57.6	59.6	3%	12.6%
Kodiak Is. Borough 1/	178.3	174.0	-2%	9.3%
MatSu Borough	374.7	420.4	12%	17.2%
Nome	92.4	96.0	4%	11.8%
North Slope Borough	104.5	113.3	8%	--
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	62.6	63.1	1%	--
Sitka Borough	120.8	119.7	-1%	--
Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon	52.7	56.4	7%	--
Southeast Fairbanks	74.9	79.8	7%	--
Valdez-Cordova	146.5	150.1	2%	--
Wade Hampton 1/	32.6	34.1	5%	12.2%
Wrangell-Petersburg	118.2	100.5	15%	--
Yukon-Koyukuk 1/	81.3	81.4	-	--

-- Annual Growth Rate Unavailable

1/ Total and per capita personal income time series are discontinuous due to a large revision in military wages for 1977-84.

2/ Alaska census areas as defined by the 1980 decennial census.

Alaska Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries 1/ 2/

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	P/ 4/86	R/ 3/86	P/ 4/85	R/ 4/86	P/ 3/86	R/ 4/85	4/86	3/86	4/85
Mining	1154.05	1226.33	1192.46	51.2	52.7	50.7	22.54	23.27	23.52
Construction	951.57	939.94	989.26	40.7	40.1	41.9	23.38	23.44	23.61
Manufacturing	511.15	517.80	515.81	40.6	42.9	38.9	12.59	12.07	13.26
Food & Kindred Prod	292.81	323.95	323.61	37.3	43.6	34.5	7.85	7.43	9.38
Lumber & Paper Prod	680.24	672.74	656.48	45.9	46.3	44.0	14.82	14.53	14.92
Trans., Comm. & Utilities	573.05	553.39	557.98	37.8	36.6	37.1	15.16	15.12	15.04
Trade	378.34	380.09	391.78	32.7	33.4	33.4	11.57	11.38	11.73
Wholesale	508.77	510.68	531.22	37.3	38.6	38.3	13.64	13.23	13.87
Retail	329.84	334.01	340.96	31.0	31.6	31.6	10.64	10.57	10.79
Finance-Ins & R.E.	381.02	395.94	445.54	33.6	34.4	36.7	11.34	11.51	12.14

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics US Department of Labor.

2/ excludes eating and drinking establishments.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES: Averages are based on data for full and part time production workers (manufacturing) and nonsupervisory workers (nonmanufacturing) and are for gross earnings and hours paid, including overtime pay and hours.